THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (c) As per information provided by Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), M/s Chemplast Sanmar Pvt. Ltd. group is operating five units in Mettur area of Tamil Nadu. Four units of the group were generating trade effluent from their processing activities and the same were reported to be discharged in their own land from the initial period onwards. Presently, the treated trade effluent of the three units is being discharged using pipelines after satisfying the standards prescribed by the Board into the surplus water course of the river Cauvery. The effluent of the fourth unit is reported to be treated and reused in the process. The fifth unit is reported to recycle the effluent of their process, hence producing no discharge. Apart from the discharge of effluent into the surplus water course of the river Cauvery no other hazardous chemical residue is reported to be mixed in the river water.

(c) to (e) The TNPCB has received a representation in respect of the units of M/s Chemplast Sanmar Pvt. Ltd. The State Pollution Control Board has directed two units of the group to achieve zero discharge. Works are under progress in the units to achieve zero discharge. As regards the third unit, the same is reported to have been converted from mercury cell process to membrane cell process, which has been commissioned during August 2007. The Chemplast group has also been directed to carry out the health study in the vicinity of the unit is Mettur and also in the nearby villages.

Endosulfan rich pesticides

455. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Endosulfan rich pesticides are being extensively used in Delhi's neighbouring States of Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh, poisoning the Capital's air;

(b) whether Endosulfan is dangerous for human bodies and a high concentration can cause cancer; and

(c) if so, measures taken to cleanse the 'breathing air' zone of Delhi from poisonous contents etc?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) As per the information made available by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Central Pollution Control Board, no such information is available on the extensive usages of Endosulfan rich pesticides in Delhi's neghbouring States poisoning the Capital's air. Recent literature clearly indicates that endosulfan is not acutely toxic and is not an endocrine disrupter. Investigations of chronic human toxicity exert endosulfan to be also neither a carcinogen nor a reproductive toxin. Further, no accurate date related to the carcinogenicity of Endosulfan in humans is available.

Aid for Plantation

†456. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa has asked for an aid of Rs. 20 crore from Government for plantation to save the coastal areas of Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Kendrapada, Jagatsingh, Puri, Ganjam and Khurda districts of the State from losses due to sea tide;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the steps being taken by Government for the environment balance in the coastal areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) As per the information made available by the National Disaster Management Authority, the Government of India has formulated a National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) to be implemented with World Bank assistance. One of the investment proposals received under the Project from Government of Orissa is on "Shelterbelt Plantation" in Balasore, Bhadrakh, Jagatsinghpur and Kendrapada Districts at a total cost of about Rs. 23 crore. The Project is yet to be posed to the World Bank for their appraisal and funding.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has issued a Coastal Regulation Zone Notification in 1991 delineating the coastal areas into different zones and listing out permissible and non permissible activities. The activities which are permissible are appraised by duly constituted expert committee, wherever necessary, and decisions are taken such that environmental balance in the coastal areas are harmonized with activities taking place in that area.

Carbon emissions

457. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our country's carbon emissions are increasing by roughly 3.2 per cent per annum as the fastest globally;

(b) if so, the actions taken by Government to reduce huge carbon emissions in our country;

(c) whether Government proposed to increase the usage of bio-diesel in place of fossil oil to control huge carbon emissions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government of India had submitted its inventory of Greenhouse gases (GHGs) emissions including Carbon-dioxide emissions as of 1994 and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in its first National Communication in June 2004. No further official estimation has been done after this report, except researchers have estimated 3-4% increase per annum and which is not the fastest globally.

Even though India as a developing country does not have any mitigation commitments, nevertheless, a sustainable development path is being followed through a range of policies and programmes to mitigate climate change and reduce carbon emissions;

(i) ensuring energy conservation and improved energy efficiency in various sectors as well as setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency

(ii) promoting use of renewable energy

(iii) power sector reforms and active renewable energy programme

(iv) use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport